

Appl. No. 09/937,51

Amendment dated November 22, 2004

Reply to Final Office Action of July 23, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 14, 16-23 and 26-32 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al. (U.S. 5,843,193) in view of Akram et al. (U.S. 5,494,489). Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this ground of rejection in view of the foregoing amendment in which the limitation that the conditioning agent must comprise a cationic polymer is now included in the primary independent composition claim, number 14, and the primary independent method claim, number 28. The corresponding duplicative dependent claims have been accordingly canceled.

The combined references do not disclose or even suggest that superior conditioning can be achieved with the **combination** of a cationic polymer and an anionic tenside.

Claims 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al., in view of Akram et al., further in view of Cotterett et al. (U.S. 5,580,357). Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection. It is respectfully submitted that the addition of Cotteret et al. fails to strengthen a rejection based on the combination of Hawkins et al. and Akram et al., as set forth hereinabove.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants ask for reconsideration and allowance of all

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Reply to Final Office Action of July 23, 2004

Applicants ask for reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims. Applicants further ask for extension of the period for response to be extended one month to November 23, 2004 and authorize a charge to Deposit Account No. 01-1250 in the amount of \$110.00 for the extension fee. Order No. 04-0437. Should any fees be due for entry and consideration of this Amendment that have not been accounted for, the Commissioner is authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 01-1250.

Respectfully submitted,



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